

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2721

To amend title 10, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to develop, and the Secretary of Defense to distribute to members of the Armed Forces upon their discharge or release from active duty, information in a compact disk read-only memory format that lists and explains the health, education, and other benefits for which veterans are eligible under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 14, 2007

Mr. CARDOZA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend title 10, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to develop, and the Secretary of Defense to distribute to members of the Armed Forces upon their discharge or release from active duty, information in a compact disk read-only memory format that lists and explains the health, education, and other benefits for which veterans are eligible under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. VETERANS HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND OTHER**
2 **BENEFITS INFORMATION IN COMPACT DISK**
3 **READ-ONLY MEMORY FORMAT FOR MEMBERS**
4 **OF THE ARMED FORCES UPON THEIR DIS-**
5 **CHARGE OR RELEASE FROM ACTIVE DUTY.**

6 (a) DEVELOPMENT AND DISTRIBUTION OF INFORMA-
7 TION.—Section 1142 of title 10, United States Code, is
8 amended—

9 (1) in subsection (b)(17), by inserting before
10 the period at the end the following: “, including,
11 once available, a copy of the compact disk developed
12 by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs under sub-
13 section (d) and containing the information described
14 in such subsection.”; and

15 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
16 section:

17 “(d) COMPACT DISK OF VETERANS HEALTH, EDU-
18 CATION, AND OTHER BENEFITS INFORMATION.—(1) The
19 Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall develop and maintain,
20 in a compact disk read-only memory format, certain infor-
21 mation that the Secretary determines would be helpful to
22 veterans. The information shall include the following:

23 “(A) A listing and explanation of all the bene-
24 fits for which veterans may be eligible under the
25 laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Af-
26 fairs.

1 “(B) A comprehensive explanation of how vet-
2 erans may apply for such benefits, including proce-
3 dures, requirements, and locations for submitting
4 applications for such benefits.

5 “(C) A listing of all facilities of the Department
6 of Veterans Affairs and contact information for such
7 facilities.

8 “(2) The compact disk developed under this sub-
9 section shall be distributed to members of the Armed
10 Forces pursuant to subsection (b) and, upon request, to
11 family members of members of the Armed Forces.

12 “(e) INTERNET WEBSITE.—The Secretary of Vet-
13 erans Affairs, the Secretary of Defense, and the head of
14 any other relevant Government agency shall each maintain
15 an Internet website on which information shall be made
16 available at all times that clearly explains the benefits ad-
17 ministered by that Secretary or agency head to which vet-
18 erans are entitled and how veterans can secure those bene-
19 fits. The website shall include information about how fam-
20 ily members of veterans may request a compact disk pur-
21 suant to subsection (d)(2).”.

22 (b) DEADLINE.—The compact disk required by sec-
23 tion 1142(d) of title 10, United States Code, as added by
24 subsection (a), shall be developed and ready for distribu-

- 1 tion to members of the Armed Forces not later than one
- 2 year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

